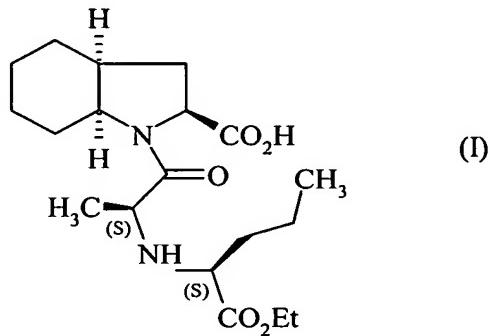


**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

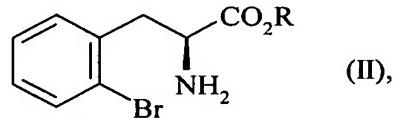
Claims 1-12 (CANCELED)

13. (NEW) A process for the synthesis of a compound of formula (I) :



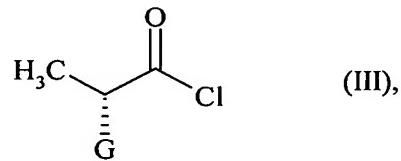
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof,

5 wherein a compound of formula (II), of configuration (S) :



wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a protecting group,

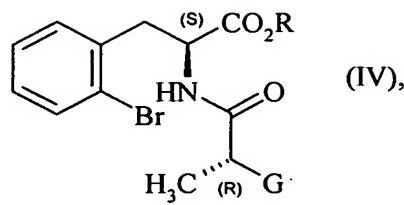
is reacted with a compound of formula (III), of configuration (R) :



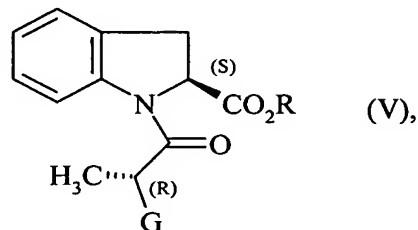
10 wherein G represents chlorine, bromine, hydroxy, p-toluenesulphonyloxy, methanesulphonyloxy or trifluoromethanesulphonyloxy,

in the presence of a base

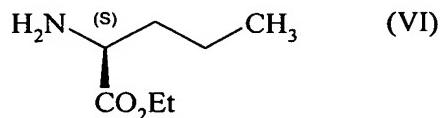
to yield a compound of formula (IV) :



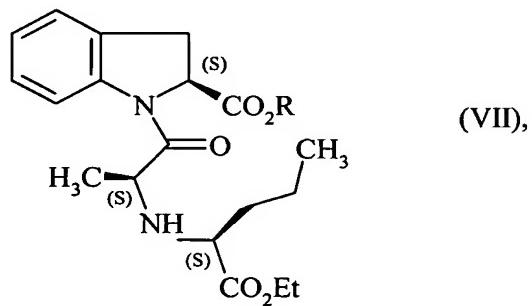
which is subjected to an intramolecular coupling reaction to yield a compound of formula (V) :



5 which is reacted with a compound of formula (VI) :



to yield a compound of formula (VII) :



which is subjected to a catalytic hydrogenation reaction to yield, after deprotection where appropriate, the compound of formula (I).

14. (NEW) The process of Claim 13, wherein R represents a benzyl or linear or branched (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)alkyl group.

15. (NEW) The process of Claim 13, wherein the intramolecular coupling reaction is carried out either in the presence of a base and a catalyst based on palladium or using 5 sodium hydride and copper(I) iodide or copper(I) bromide.

16. (NEW) The process of Claim 15, wherein the intramolecular coupling reaction is carried out in the presence of a base and a catalyst based on palladium and an arylphosphine or bisphosphine.

17. (NEW) The process of Claim 16, wherein the base used for the intramolecular 10 coupling reaction is selected from Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaOtBu, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaOAc and KOAc.

18. (NEW) The process of Claim 16, wherein the catalyst based on palladium and an arylphosphine or bisphosphine is selected from Pd(0)/PPh<sub>3</sub>, Pd(0)/P(*o*-tolyl)<sub>3</sub>, Pd(0)/P(1-naphthyl)<sub>3</sub>, Pd(0)/P(*o*-methoxyphenyl)<sub>3</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/PPh<sub>3</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/P(*o*-tolyl)<sub>3</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/P(1-naphthyl)<sub>3</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/P(*o*-methoxyphenyl)<sub>3</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/P(2-furyl)<sub>3</sub>, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/dppp, Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/(±)-BINAP and (DPPF)PdCl<sub>2</sub>.CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/DPPF, 15 it being understood that:

BINAP means 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl,

dba means dibenzylideneacetone,

DPPF means 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene

and dppp means 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane.

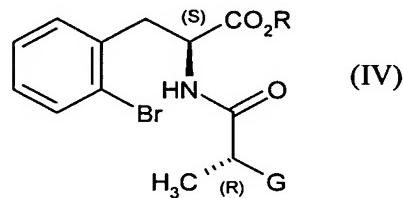
19. (NEW) The process of Claim 13, wherein G represents chlorine, bromine, p-toluenesulphonyloxy, methanesulphonyloxy or trifluoromethanesulphonyloxy.

20. (NEW) The process of Claim 19, wherein the reaction between the compounds of formulae (V) and (VI) is carried out in the presence of an organic amine selected from triethylamine, pyridine and diisopropylethylamine or a mineral base selected from 25 Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and KHCO<sub>3</sub>.

21. (NEW) The process of Claim 13, wherein G represents hydroxy.

22. (NEW) The process of Claim 21, wherein the reaction between the compounds of formulae (V) and (VI) is carried out in the presence of N-methyl-N-phenylaminotriphenylphosphonium iodide or, when R is other than a hydrogen atom, under  
5 Mitsunobu reaction conditions.

23. (NEW) A compound of formula (IV) :



wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a protecting group, and G represents chlorine, bromine, hydroxy, p-toluenesulphonyloxy, methanesulphonyloxy or trifluoromethanesulphonyloxy.

24. (NEW) A process according to Claim 13 for the synthesis of perindopril in the form of its tert-butylamine salt.